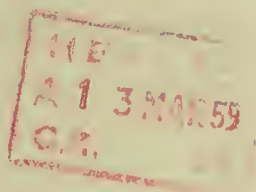


LIBRARY



BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H .

-----  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958.  
-----

BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958.

-----

To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Boston,

being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted  
by the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the Health Administration of the Port of Boston during the year ended 31st December, 1958, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Early in the year Dr. Smeaton left the Borough to take up his new appointment as Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough and in December, Mr. Whitton, the Additional Port Health Inspector, resigned, having been appointed Public Health Inspector and Assistant Surveyor to Kempston Urban District Council.

The number of vessels entering the Dock rose from 939 in 1957 to 1,145 in 1958, which represents an increase in vessels arriving from foreign ports and also in coastwise shipping. As a result, the number of ships boarded and inspected by the Medical Officer and the Port Health Inspectors increased from 242 in 1957 to 313 in 1958. There was little or no change in the nature of the cargo traffic or in the principal ports from which vessels arrived.

It is gratifying to report that there was a complete absence of infectious disease during the year and that the Health Administration continues to function in a satisfactory manner. The present arrangements are adequate to deal with any outbreak that may occur.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the staff of the Health Department and all others concerned for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.

FEBRUARY, 1959.

SECTION I - Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer.	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
SMEATON, W.G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1-7-50 (Resigned 28-2-58)	M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H. Barrister-at-Law.	Assistant C.M.O. - Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health - Boston R.D.C.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1-5-58.	M.B.,Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O. - Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health - Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G.E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15-10-45	Cert S.I.B., Cert Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector - Borough of Boston.
WHITTON, P.E.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	1-10-56 (Resigned 31-12-58)	Cert S.I.B.	Additional Public Health Inspector - Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D.H.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	29-4-57	Cert S.I.B., Cert Meat & Food Inspector.	Additional Public Health Inspector - Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone)  
number of the Medical)  
Officer of Health. )

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs.  
BOSTON 4601 (six lines)

-----

SECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected.		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Port Health Inspectors.	
Foreign Ports.	925.	186,562.	4.	238.	Nil.
Coastwise.	220.	47,016.	Nil.	71.	Nil.
Total.	1,145.	233,578.	4.	309.	Nil.

-----

SECTION III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ...	Number of passengers INWARDS : 220. Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 208.
CARGO TRAFFIC ...	Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Battens and Boards, Bulbs, Clay, Deals, Feeding Stuffs, Fertilizers, Flour, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Paper, Perlite, Petroleum, Potatoes, Salt, Sleepers, Starch, Steel Bars etc., Telegraph Poles and General.  Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Steel, Waste Paper and General.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive ...	BELGIUM : Antwerp, Breskens, Bruges, Ghent, Hansweert, Riemo, Zeebrugges. DENMARK : Aalborg, Esbjerg, Fredericia, Horsens, Randers. EGYPT : Alexandria. FINLAND : Abo, Hamina, Haukipudas, Kemi, Kasko, Mantyluoto, Pateniemi, Raumo, Walkom, Yxpila. FRANCE : Bayonne, Bordeaux. GERMANY : Bremen, Cuxhaven, Hamburg, Wismar. GREECE : Patras. HOLLAND : Colynsplaats, Flushing, Harlingen, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Urk, Ymuiden, Zierikzee. NORWAY : Porsgrunn, Skien. POLAND : Danzig, Gdynia, Stettin. RUSSIA : Archangel, Kem, Leningrad, Onega. SARDINIA : Cagliari. SPAIN : Carthagena, Valencia. SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Karlshamn, Kopmanholmen, Ljusne, Oskarshamn, Ronneby, Stugsund, Sundsvall, Uddevalla, Varberg.

-----  
SECTION IV - Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

-----  
SECTION V - Water supply.

1. Source of supply for

(a) The District.

(b) Shipping.

- NO CHANGE -



2. Reports of tests for contamination.

- NO CHANGE -

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

- NO CHANGE -

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

- NO CHANGE -

-----

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).  
Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

- NO CHANGE -

2. Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2).)

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

- NO CHANGE -

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b).)  
Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

- NO CHANGE -

4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).  
Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

- NO CHANGE -

5. Arrangements for :-

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox - see Section VII).

- NO CHANGE -

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :

- NO CHANGE -

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :

- NO CHANGE -

-----

## SECTION VII - Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

Arrangements have been made with the Medical Officer of Health for Grimsby that in all cases of smallpox the Isolation Hospital, Laceby, will provide ambulances and crews consisting of specially trained and vaccinated teams of attendants.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. J.H.C. Clarke, County Offices, Sleaford.	Dr. G. Nisbet, Bridge Street, Peterborough.	Dr. J. Glen, Springfield Hospital, Scarthoe, Grimsby.
--	---	---

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A.W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

## SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the stops taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

- NO CHANGE -

## SECTION IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease.	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned.
		Passengers.	Crew.	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1958.

-----

SECTION X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

-----

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1958.

-----

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester, 10.

During the year no ships were found to be infested with rats.

3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Inspector.



TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.  
No ships were found to be rat infested.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates  
issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.  
Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore  
no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons.	26.
Ships from 301 - 1,000 tons.	6.
Ships from 1,001 - 3,000 tons.	Nil.
Total.	32.

-----  
SECTION XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices.	
Defects of Original Construction.	309	Nil.	Nil.	-
Structural Defects through wear and tear.	309.	Nil.	2.	2 sailed before complet- ion.
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.	319.	Nil.	11.	10 complied with. 1 sailed before compl- iance.
Total .....	319.	Nil.	13.	10 complied with.



SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations.  
1934 and 1948.

- NO CHANGE -

-----

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens.

- NO CHANGE -

-----

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

- NO CHANGE -

-----

SECTION XVII - Food Inspection.

Imported Italian Apples.

During the year further sampling was carried out in respect of imported Italian apples. In 1957 it had been discovered that on numerous occasions the skin and calyces of the apples were contaminated with arsenic and lead, consistent with the residue of a lead arsenate spray.

The apples were examined for the presence of Lead, Copper, Arsenic and Zinc but in each case, the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene reported that ~~these~~ substances were not present in excess of the recognised limits and that the apples were fit for human consumption.

-----

